

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 648

Supporting the goals and ideals of Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Day.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2007

Mr. ISSA submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of Sudden Cardiac Arrest
Awareness Day.

Whereas nationwide more than 325,000 Americans die each
year from sudden cardiac arrest, which amounts to 900
people per day at a rate of one person every 90 seconds;

Whereas more Americans die each year from sudden cardiac
arrest than from cancer and car accidents combined;

Whereas almost 95 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims
die before they reach a hospital or obtain other emer-
gency medical attention;

Whereas 80 percent of sudden cardiac arrests are caused by
ventricular fibrillation, a heart rhythm variance for which
defibrillation and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
are the only effective treatments;

Whereas sudden cardiac arrest causes the brain to begin dying within four to six minutes of onset;

Whereas for every minute that passes while a person is experiencing sudden cardiac arrest, chances of survival decrease by 10 percent;

Whereas after six minutes, according to studies conducted by the Mayo Clinic, the chance of resuscitating a sudden cardiac arrest victim is almost zero;

Whereas although sudden cardiac arrest is one of the leading causes of death in the United States, automated external defibrillators (AEDs) can prevent these deaths;

Whereas AEDs enable medical and nonmedical rescuers to deliver a potentially lifesaving defibrillation to sudden cardiac arrest victims;

Whereas the national sudden cardiac arrest survival rate without defibrillation and CPR is less than 5 percent;

Whereas the Federal Government has already mandated every commercial airplane to have an AED on board;

Whereas a sudden cardiac arrest event is 30 times more likely to occur in a school than on an airplane;

Whereas on any given day, 20 percent of the population, both adults and children, occupy the Nation's schools;

Whereas an estimated 3,000 to 5,000 school-aged children die each year from sudden cardiac arrest;

Whereas in the United States, one out of every 100,000 to 300,000 high school athletes will die each year from sudden cardiac arrest;

Whereas in communities with strong public access defibrillation programs, the sudden cardiac arrest sur-

vival rate, when defibrillation and CPR are provided within the first three minutes, is up to 75 percent;

Whereas education, training, and preparedness are critical factors in the ability to successfully save the life of a sudden cardiac arrest victim; and

Whereas heightened public awareness of how critical time is in providing treatment to sudden cardiac arrest victims can help save lives: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of Sudden
3 Cardiac Arrest Awareness Day; and

4 (2) encourages awareness and education efforts
5 on the subject of sudden cardiac arrest and the
6 timely use of an automated external defibrillator and
7 cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

○